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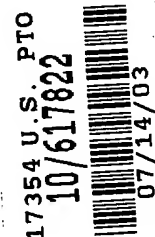
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July 14, 2003

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Kenji SHIMIZU, Akira SAKAWAKI, Hiroshi SAKAI, Takashi  
HIKOSAKA and Takeshi IWASAKI  
MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING  
THE SAME, AND MAGNETIC RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION  
APPARATUS  
**Assignee: SHOWA DENKO K.K.**  
Our Ref. Q71182



Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above comprising thirty (30) sheets of the specification, including the claims and abstract and two (2) sheets of drawings. **The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment will be submitted at a later date.** Also enclosed please find a Preliminary Amendment.

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the following sentence:

This application claims benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/397,097 filed July 22, 2002; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>20</u> - 20	=	<u>          </u>	x	\$18.00	=	<u>          </u>	\$0.00
Independent claims	<u>1</u> - 3	=	<u>          </u>	x	\$84.00	=	<u>          </u>	\$0.00
Base Fee								\$750.00
<b>TOTAL FEE</b>								<b><u>\$750.00</u></b>

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$750.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.



Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2002-204661	July 12, 2002
U.S. Provisional	60/397,097	July 22, 2002

The priority document is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,  
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC

Attorneys for Applicant

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